

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

NEW SERIES No. 1204. 月廿九日五十二緒光

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899.

大拜禮

號六月五英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS  
PER ANNUM.

## Banks.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.  
ESTABLISHED 1880.  
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....Yen 12,000,000  
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....10,500,000  
RESERVE FUND.....7,300,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

### Branches and Agencies.

KOBE NEW YORK  
LONDON LYONS  
SAN FRANCISCO HONOLULU  
BOMBAY SHANGHAI

LONDON BANKERS:

THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.  
PARIS BANK, LTD.

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LTD.

HONGKONG AGENCY:—INTEREST ALLOWED:  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.  
per Annum on the Daily Balance.

On fixed deposits, for 12 months at 5 per cent.  
6 " 4 "  
3 " 3 "

S. CHOI,  
Agent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899. [182]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,  
LIMITED.

Authorised Capital.....£1,000,000  
Paid up Capital.....£324,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Board of Directors:  
E. Burnie, Esq. | D. Gillies, Esq.  
Chen Kit Shan, Esq. | Kwan Ho Chuen, Esq.  
Chow Tung Shang, Esq. | J. T. Lauts, Esq.  
Chief Manager,  
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed.....5.  
Hongkong, 24th March, 1898. [8]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000  
RESERVE FUND.....\$10,000,000  
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:  
R. M. GRAY, Esq., Chairman.  
N. A. SIEBS, Esq., Deputy Chairman.  
E. Gutz, Esq.

A. Haupt, Esq. | A. J. Raymond, Esq.  
R. H. Hill, Esq. | P. Sachse, Esq.  
The Hon. J. Kewich, Esq. | E. Shellin, Esq.  
A. McComachie, Esq. | R. Shewan, Esq.  
Chief Manager,  
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER:  
Shanghai—J. P. WADE GARDNER, Esq.  
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY  
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG.—INTEREST ALLOWED:  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.  
per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 2½ per cent. per Annum.  
For 6 months, 3 per cent. per Annum.  
For 12 months, 4 per cent. per Annum.

T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1899. [9]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE BUSINESS of the above Bank is conducted  
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be  
obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER  
CENT. per annum.  
Depositors may transfer at their option  
balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND  
SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED  
DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION,  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1895. [10]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,  
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.  
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....£800,000  
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-  
HOLDERS.....£800,000  
RESERVE FUND.....£150,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT  
ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per  
annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months... 3 per cent.

6 " 3½ "  
3 " 3 "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 24th May, 1898. [31]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE  
OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1896.

Shanghai Taels.  
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....5,000,000  
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....2,500,000

Head Office—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies:

CANTON HANKOW  
CHEFOO PEKING  
CHINKIANG SWATOW  
FOOCHOW TIENSIN.

THE Bank purchases and receives for col-  
lection Bills of Exchange drawn on the  
above places, and sells Drafts and Telegraphic  
Transfers payable at its Branches and Agen-  
cies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.  
Advances made on approved securities.  
Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.  
3 per cent. on Fixed Deposits for 3 months.

4 " 3½ "  
3 " 3 "

E. W. RUTTER,  
Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 1st October, 1897. [127]

## Intimations.

### PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL	REMARKS
SHANGHAI	Chusan	E. Street	About 12th May	Freight or Passage.
LONDON, &c.	Coromandel	C. C. Talbot	Soon, 13th May	Freight or Passage.
JAPAN	Rohilla	S. de B. Lockyer, R.N.R.	4 P.M., 13th May	Freight or Passage.
LONDON	Candia	W. H. Haughton, R.N.R.	About 17th May	Freight only.

\*Passing through the Inland Sea. [19]

For Further Particulars apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 31st May, 1899. [15]

### JUBILEE PILSENER BEER

PER CASE OF 4 DOZ. QUARTS

OR

6 DOZ. PINTS ..... \$13.00.

SOLE AGENTS,

H. PRICE & Co.,  
12, QUEEN'S ROAD.

### BITTERS.

Angostura (iegers)

Bokers

Peach Bitters

Amer d'Or (Luxardo)

Danvita

Orange

C. O. Q. (Cocktail bitters)

Pomeranzen (phials)

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

15, Queen's Road,

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1899. [15]

BOARD  
AND  
HONGKONG HOTEL.

RESIDENCE.

On Monthly Terms from 1st May, 1899.

### THE CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

No. 5-B, BUND, YOKOHAMA.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL Centrally situated; well furnished and supplied with excellent Cuisine and Good Wines.

The Company's Steam-launch attends the arrival and departure of all Mail Steamers.

Special attention paid to the Comfort of Visitors.

E. V. SIOEN, Manager.

Yokohama, 1st October, 1897. [36]

### W. POWELL & CO.

Ex. S.S. "SHANGHAI."

NEW STOCK OF LADIES

### TRIMMED & UNTRIMMED MILLINERY.

NEW FLOWERS, FEATHERS, LACES, RIBBONS, &c., &c.

Hongkong, 16th March, 1899. [17]

## Intimations.

### UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL AGENCY, LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN  
HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,

FOR THE

### UNITED ASBESTOS CO., LTD., LONDON,

CONTRACTORS TO HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

Best Qualities of ASBESTOS GOODS and PACKINGS.

HYDRAULIC and SELF LUBRICATING GUM PACKINGS of all kinds.

"VICTOR" METALLIC BEEF JOINTS.

ASBESTOS SALAMANDER BOILER COVERS & COMPOSITIONS of the best qualities.

ESTIMATES given for every DESCRIPTION of WORK.

SUPERINTENDENT.....DOUDWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

27] DODWELL & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

[27]

PEAK HOTEL

AND

### CRAIGIEBURN.

THE PEAK HOTEL is situated at VICTORY GAP, adjoining the TRAMWAY TERMINUS, 6,350 feet above sea Level.

CRAIGIEBURN is situated at PLUNKETT'S GAP, five minutes' walk from the PEAK HOTEL.

Fine Healthy location, variety of beautiful scenery. Cool Southerly breezes in Summer with perfect protection against the North East Winds in Winter.

Well appointed rooms, attentive service and excellent Cuisine.

GEO. J. CASANOVA,  
Manager.

CITY OFFICE, 7, Duddell Street.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1899. [28]

### IMMUNITY

FROM

### INFECTION.

A DEMAND HAS BEEN TREATED FOR

### ESSETS' FLUID

A PERFECT DISINFECTANT (NON-POISONOUS).

A SURE PREVENTIVE OF ALL KINDS OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

SOLE AGENTS—WATKINS & CO.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1899. [14]

### THE PHARMACY.

HAVE NOW A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF ATKINSON'S PERFUMES AND ARE

SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF

### WHITE HEATHER BOUQUET.

Sole Agents for VIN PASTEUR the great French Nerve Tonic.

Also Sole Agents for the now well-known JAPANESE TABLE WATER.

### TANSAN.

FLETCHER & CO.  
and

CARMICHAEL & CO.

1242

# THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899.

## To-day's Advertisements.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

WE having relinquished the Agency of the above Line, Messrs. McGREGOR BROS. & CO. will from this Date conduct the business connected therewith.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

In reference to the above Notice we have from this Date taken over the Agency at this port of the "GLEN" steamers.

MCGREGOR BROS. & CO.,

Hongkong, 6th May, 1899.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Brisbane to celebrate the jubilee of the arrival of Dr. Lang's immigrant ships in Moreton Bay.

A CHINAMAN was fined \$5 at the Magistracy this morning for wasting water. To touch John Chinaman's pocket is the most effectual way of making him be more careful in the future regarding this most necessary liquid, especially at this time of pending water famine.

A PRIVATE letter from a large locomotive concern in the United States conveys the information that the Russian and Chinese governments have placed large orders with locomotive works in that country.

The *Japan Gazette* reports that the following crew has been selected to represent Yokohama at the forthcoming Koho regatta 20th H. E. Hayashi, G. G. Allcock, J. J. M. Cart, and W. Goddard (stroke). An inquiry we learn that the Koho crew has not yet been settled, but the *Gazette* states that it is believed it will consist of Manemi, Oldenburg, Kalkhof and Surigen (stroke).

We learn that H.M.S. *Terrible* was successfully docked at Yokosuka yesterday. We mentioned in a previous issue that the vessel had to be very considerably lightened, even the midshipmen's chests being sent ashore. A midy's chest does not strike one as being a very big item among the weighty articles carried by a battleship, but they weigh a ton, on an average, and every little helps.

HO NGOR SHU NO, a Chinese doctor, was fined \$10 at the magistracy this morning, for not reporting a case of bubonic plague to the proper authorities. He said in defence that the body was hot and it was the same disease as people were dying of at Hupeh and Haiphong, but he was not aware that it was bubonic plague.

The new bridge opposite the end of Chingoo Road across the Southow Creek at Shanghai is practically completed and will be opened to traffic directly the approach roads are made up. The bridge is built of hardwood, with wrought iron railings, is 273 feet in length between the abutments, and 40 feet in width, the main piles being 35 feet in length. For the convenience of the vehicular traffic the advent of the bridge itself, in contradistinction to the other bridges across the creek, has been kept as gentle as possible. The metalled approaches on the Hongkong side are only temporary and they will be considerably improved in the near future. It is expected that this bridge will relieve the Garden Bridge of a great deal of heavy traffic. The work has been carried out by Lee Tai Shih, under the superintendence of the Municipal Engineers' Department, at a cost of Pts. 22,000.

The *Steam Ferry Press* says that on the 16th February, a Chinese named Hui Yew Cheung deposited Thols. 2,000 in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and obtained a receipt book. Thrice entered his house at Rock Summit on the 19th April, and carried away the box containing his cash, Bank notes and deposit book. He gave notice of this robbery to Mr. Wong Hang Chaw, the Cashier of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and asked him to inform him if anybody presented his deposit book for drawing the money. The other afternoon at 4.30 p.m. a Chinese presented the deposit book at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and demanded a bill of exchange on Hongkong, as he was going there shortly. The Cashier recognised the deposit book, at once asked the man to wait some time and sent for the real depositor who came with a policeman and arrested the culprit.

All our Brandy is guaranteed to be pure COGNAC, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

Smaller quantities and sample bottles will be supplied at proportionate wholesale rates.

We guarantee our Wines and Spirits to be genuine only when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Limited,

QUEEN'S ROAD CRATELLA.

## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899.

### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

LONDON, May 4th.

The *New York Herald* now states that the news concerning the session of Luang Prabang to France is denied but that negotiations to settle pending difficulties are proceeding, in Paris and M. Doumer has been instructed to push matters.

THE SUDAN.

Ibrahim Ali, Lord Kitchener's envoy to the Sultan of Darfur, found on his arrival that the latter had been dethroned. The usurper raged Ibrahim Ali's escort of 150 men killing 120 of them. The survivors have returned to Omdurman.

THE COTTON CRISIS.

The Cotton crisis has ended by the men accepting an advance of 2/- instead of the 1/- demanded.

### WEATHER REPORT.

The Observatory report says:—On the 6th at 11.55 a.m. the barometer has risen on the E. coast of China, and is little changed on the S. coast. Pressure is highest over N.E. China, with moderate gradients for N.E. winds on the coast. FORECAST:—Moderate E. winds; cloudy, some showers.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Two Chinese boatmen were fined \$5 each for not having a light during the night.

A HEAVY gale was experienced at Sydney on the 5th ulto, and a good deal of damage was done.

An Irish seaman on the U. S. N. *Charleston* was this morning sentenced to 7 days h.l. for being drunk in a public place.

LAM TONI, while waiting at the Harbour Master's Office, caught two Chinamen attempting to steal from his pocket steamer ticket value \$9. Both prisoners were sentenced to 6 weeks h.l.

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The band of the Hongkong Regiment will play at the Hongkong Hotel this evening from 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. It is not often that Hongkong residents have the opportunity of listening to the strains of a band while lingering over their dessert, and so it is probable that the hotel dining room will well patronise this evening. The band will also play on Saturday night.

The Laundries of the Hongkong Hotel will be open to the public on the 1st of June, from 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

### FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE U. S. S. "CHARLESTON."

About 9.30 this morning a steam launch ran alongside the American cruiser *Charleston*, on board of which the sailors were getting ready the boats for some races that had been arranged for, and whilst the launch lay close to the cruiser's side, one of the whale boats was accidentally let go from its fastenings, someone, we believe, springing the pelican hooks before the boat was ready. On the launch were some of the *Charleston's* men, Mr. L. Miers, Babst Beef agent, and several Chinamen. Four of the sailors were injured by the fall of the boat, which went crashing down through the stays and ropes of the launch; three Chinamen were knocked *foyer de combat*, one of them dying since, and Mr. Miers was struck across the back. At first it was thought his spine was broken, but we believe it is not quite so serious as that. He was immediately taken to the hospital, where no one is allowed to see him. Mr. Miers is well-known in Shanghai, Yokohama, and Hongkong, as well as in Manila, from which latter place he has just arrived. This was indeed a sad beginning to the first anniversary of the *Charleston's* commission, which is being to-day celebrated. The boat races were in consequence abandoned.

**CUBA SELF-SUPPORTING.**

It is the intention of our Government to make American money, coin and paper, the circulating medium of both Cuba and Puerto Rico, which will absorb from \$16,000,000 to \$30,000,000 of our currency. Such progress has been made in the necessary adjustments in Cuba that the daily revenues are from \$1,000 to \$1,200, while the daily expenses of the military and civil establishment are less than \$100,000. As the revenues at all the ports are sure to increase, there will be no trouble making revenues maintain the cost of occupation. The expense of maintaining 40,000 men in Cuba is decreasing in all the departments, and people who have been complaining of the expense of garrisoning Cuba will find that the Cuban revenue will increasingly more than cover the outlay. Cuba is rapidly becoming a revenue-producer. Even the postal service, now partly established, will, according to the government estimates, net \$100,000 at the end of the year while the whole estimated net revenue to the Government at the end of this year is \$1,000,000. *The Journal, Minneapolis.*

MESSRS. BENJAMIN, Kelly and Potts, in their weekly share-report state: Since our last circular business has been fairly brisk and several stocks show an appreciable advance, notably Hongkong and Shanghai Banks; Hongkong and Whampoa Docks; and Hong Kong Hotels; whilst other shares show a firm tendency. The Oliver's Freehold Mines Limited, have given notice that a call of \$1 per share has been made in respect of the 15% shares and is payable on the 5th July next. Banks, Hongkong and Shanghai Banks, have been in strong demand and have been placed at advancing rates up to 25% per cent, premium. The London quotation, has risen to £39. National have been done at \$22. Marine Insurances, Hongkong, are quoted at \$114 as the dividend or \$6 paid on the 26th April. North China have bought £1s. 18d. as the dividend of £s. 93. paid on the 26th April. Fire Insurances, Hongkong, Fire have changed hands at \$205 and \$207. China have been done in small lots at \$81 and \$82. Shipping, Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats, have been placed to a fair extent at \$29. Indo-China have changed hands to a considerable extent at \$61, \$60, \$59 and close with a few shares offering at the latter rate. China and Manilas are quoted at \$75. Douglas Steamship have been done at \$55, and are now not obtainable under \$56. Star Ferries are shade easier and can be had at \$14. Remittances, China's have improved their position and have been done at \$169. Luzons have been bought at \$10 and \$10. Mining, Puntungs have been in some demand and after sales at \$71 have been sold at \$71. A telegram from the Mine, states that "The Mill can run 24 days, crushing 2,200 tons, yielding 146 ounces of smelted gold. Prospects are encouraging." Chambanes have experienced a sharp rise, and have been placed at \$160, \$170 and \$175. Queen Minis have been sold at \$21 cents. Jelebus have been negotiated at \$10. Raubs are steady and have buyers at \$88. Great Eastern and Caledonians have improved their position and have been done at \$3.50, \$3.60, \$3.70, \$4 and \$4.10. Books, Wharves and Godowns, Hongkong, and Whampoa Docks continue in demand and shares have been taken off the market at 335 and 340 per cent premium, the market closing steady at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharf shares have been placed at \$86 and \$86. Lands-Hotels and buildings, Hongkong Lands have hardened and sales have been made at \$80, \$80 and \$81. Kowloon Lands are enquired for \$24. Hongkong Hotels have, owing to a general demand, advanced to \$85 with no share changing hands. Humphry's Estate have been sold at \$0.20, \$0.25 and \$0.30, closing steady at the latter rate. China Provinces have been done at \$9.00 and \$10, and close quiet at \$9.75. Cotton Mills.—There is no business to report in stocks under this heading. Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements have ruled, steadily with small sales and buyers at \$24. A. S. Watsons have been done at \$1. Electrics are a shade easier and are obtainable at \$11. Fenwicks are wanted at \$3. Ices have been sold at \$1.2.

**TO PIERCE THE ALPS AGAIN.**

An Alpine railway to compete with the St. Gotthard line for travel between Germany and Italy is being discussed. This is the Binschau Railway, connecting Landeck and Meran, which may be built by Austria.

The longest tunnel, that between Trafoi and the Zebri valley, would be 4.65 miles long, as compared with the nine miles of the St. Gotthard tunnel. This line would entirely avoid Switzerland. The route from Munich would pass by Faid, Landeck, Reschen, Trafoi, Birnau and Lake of Como to Milan and Genoa.

**MENELIK'S LIBRARY.**

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Courier* hears from a traveller who was recently returned from Abyssinia that Menelik has added to his library a valuable collection of manuscripts.

At the time of the Mahomedan invasion, in the sixteenth century, the Abyssinians carried their Ethiopian manuscripts

—Debra Sina, one of the islands of Lake Zony. Here they remained carefully guarded by the inhabitants until the Negus took possession, and transported the books to his capital.

Chambo has experienced a sharp rise, and have been placed at \$160, \$170 and \$175. Queen Minis have been sold at \$21 cents. Jelebus have been negotiated at \$10. Raubs are steady and have buyers at \$88. Great Eastern and Caledonians have improved their position and have been done at \$3.50, \$3.60, \$3.70, \$4 and \$4.10. Books, Wharves and Godowns, Hongkong, and Whampoa Docks continue in demand and shares have been taken off the market at 335 and 340 per cent premium, the market closing steady at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharf shares have been placed at \$86 and \$86. Lands-Hotels and buildings, Hongkong Lands have hardened and sales have been made at \$80, \$80 and \$81. Kowloon Lands are enquired for \$24. Hongkong Hotels have, owing to a general demand, advanced to \$85 with no share changing hands. Humphry's Estate have been sold at \$0.20, \$0.25 and \$0.30, closing steady at the latter rate. China Provinces have been done at \$9.00 and \$10, and close quiet at \$9.75. Cotton Mills.—There is no business to report in stocks under this heading. Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements have ruled, steadily with small sales and buyers at \$24. A. S. Watsons have been done at \$1. Electrics are a shade easier and are obtainable at \$11. Fenwicks are wanted at \$3. Ices have been sold at \$1.2.

**THE PROFITS OF MODERN AUTHORSHIP.**

Modern authorship is profitable if it possess the element of sensation. The Academy states that Lord Kitchener was offered £5,000 for any volume he cared to write on the Soudan campaign. Admiral Dewey was offered £1,000 for a magazine article on the Philippines.

Lieutenant Hobson accepted £1,000 for an article on the sinking of the *Hernando de Soto*.

Lieutenant Hobson's article is to be published in book form by Mr. Fisher Unwin.

**THE RECALLED SILVER YEN.**

A Tokyo dispatch states that the balance of the silver yen, which remained undisposed of last year, amounted to Y. 12,000,000. Of this amount, 54 million yen are set aside to be coined into subsidiary money during this year, a million yen is to be advanced to the Bank of Taiwan, and the balance has been sold at

Shanghai, Hongkong and other places, so that the disposal of all the silver recalled when the gold currency was adopted has now been arranged.

**WRITING ON GLASS.**

A patent has been granted in Germany for a new method of writing on glass by the use of an aluminum point. The glass which is to be written on must be moistened with vinegar and the writing done by drawing with the

point. Fine particles of aluminum adhere to the glass, which when dry shows the markings in very fine lines that cannot be easily removed by friction or exposure to the air.

### LEGAL INTELLIGENCE.

#### SUPREME COURT.

#### IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

Before His Hon. W. M. Goodman (Acting Chief Justice), with Commander W. C. Hastings, R.N. (retired) as Assessor.

May 6th.

#### CLAIM AGAINST A BRITISH WARSHIP.

Wong Tai Choy, owner of a Kyang Loong Tai junk, brought an action against Captain G. A. Callaghan, R.N., H.M.S. *Hermitage*, to recover \$800 for damages sustained by collision.

Mr. Slade, instructed by Messrs. Johns, a Stokey and Master, appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Robinson instructed by Mr. Dennis for defendant.

Evidence for the defence was given.

Lieutenant Davidson, officer of the watch on the *Hermitage* on the evening of the sixth March, said the night was fine but dark and the sea was smooth. He first became aware that the junk was near by seeing a small light 30 or 40 feet on the starboard bow. He gave the order to port and immediately afterwards gave the order to starboard, and then called out "Full speed astern both engines." This order was executed but had practically no effect.

*The Hermitage* prior to the collision. The effect of the collision was that the junk capsized and passed to the starboard of the *Hermitage*. Every effort was made to save the lives of those on the junk, the *Hermitage* standing by for half an hour. Not more than ten seconds elapsed between his sighting the junk and the impact.

Witnesses were cross-examined at considerable length by Mr. Slade.

The hearing was further adjourned.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.

#### THE LAUNDRY QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph."

DEAR SIR.—I noted with great interest your reference in last night's issue to the manner in which the foreign community of Yokohama had managed to overcome the washerwoman nuisance and to put an end to the wily Japanese. Could not, as you suggest, a steam laundry be started in Hongkong? Of course there would be considerable opposition offered by the Chinese washerwomen, and they would do all in their power to make such an undertaking a failure, but I do not see why such an enterprise should not succeed under able management.

A certain amount of supervision is now exercised over the laundries of the Colony, still, where our clothes are handled by Chinese, under Chinese supervision there is always a certain amount of danger from infection. There is also the trouble that the washerwoman give to take into consideration. They ruin our clothes and frequently lose them, and remonstrances are useless, while

## THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.

## JUSTICE IN SINGAPORE.

## A STRONG INDICTMENT.

Nearly every theatre-goer in Hongkong, we suppose, saw "The Sign of the Cross," whilst the drama was being played here. It has been produced in Shanghai since, and has evidently made an impression, according to press notices. We give below the critique of the "Shanghai Daily Press," which, we think, will meet the views of many who say the play here.

Every part of the Lyceum Theatre was crowded on Saturday night when Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave's dramatic company made their first bow to a Shanghai audience, and produced the much-debated religious drama, "The Sign of the Cross." From the rising of the curtain until its fall at the end of the fourth act the huge audience followed the fortunes of the leading characters with an interest that is quite unusual in Shanghai and at the close of each scene the "Stars" were called before the footlights and vigorously applauded. Making all due allowance for a first night coupled with the fact that the company had only arrived in the city a few hours previously the production was a good one and creditable to all concerned. Written by Wilson Barrett some two years ago "The Sign of the Cross" is a drama which owes its popularity throughout the English-speaking world more to the storm of discussion it has aroused than to any value it possesses as an historical play. Religious people especially have furiously debated the right of the stage to go to Christianity for subjects and themes with which to entertain the nation, and so widespread has the discussion become that those who oppose the play have since bitterly regretted their own hostility since its only fruit has been to popularise "The Sign of the Cross" and to advertise it in a way no dramatic production has secured for the past half century. It is unnecessary to give a sketch of the plot which underlies "The Sign of the Cross" for the majority of the people, even of Shanghai, have for some time been familiar with the fortunes of Marcus, the lovesick prefect of Rome, who, loving the Christian girl Maria, leaves heaven and earth in vain, to save her from the fiendish plot of the infamous Nero that all Christians in his capital should die.

In the end Marcus too becomes a follower of Christ the Nazarene and walks with his loved one into the den of beasts, where presumably both are devoured. Briefly, the drama which follows closely the book of the same name consists of four acts of blood, thunder, lust and virtue. Unlike the usual melodrama, virtue is not rewarded, in this world nor is vice knocked out within view of the audience. The virtuous people in the long cast are all slaughtered before the curtain falls, while the villains such as Nero, Tigellinus and Lucinius continue their lives of sin. Historically, and we hope our statement will be taken as truth and not debased in the columns of the paper—the drama is as full of flaws as the proverbial sieve is of holes. Nero was not nearly so black as he is painted by Wilson Barrett, the early Christians did not sing modern hymns, and although they were persecuted, they were not the models of propriety and virtue that the author would have us believe. The most glaring fault of the drama however is its title. "The Sign of the Cross" runs through the thing and we are told that the "tree of the triple branch" was not only the symbol of those early Christians, but that it was tattooed on their arms. Now as a matter of fact the cross was not used as a symbol of Christianity until five centuries later when Mohammed arose and devastated Eastern Europe. The Koran worshippers took the present for their symbol, and the Christians of Europe followed by adopting the cross as typical of the crucifixion of Christ, and their belief in his divinity. A large amount of license must, of course be allowed to a dramatist, but in writing a play claimed to be historical it is inexcusable.

In such a lengthy cast, it must of course be that some of the characters are faulty and some of the delineators even ludicrous, but on the whole the company on Saturday night acquitted themselves well. Commencing with the ladies the part of Mericia the beautiful Christian girl was taken by Miss Madge Grey. Although by no means an Ada Ferrar, or a Maid Jeffries Miss Grey acquitted herself very well in a most difficult role and at times, particularly in the last scene, she showed great dramatic talent. As Berenice the lovely Patriarch, Miss Barbara Fenn was all that could be desired. She seemed to thoroughly realise "that hell holds no fury like a woman scorned" and succeeded in thoroughly ingratiating herself with the audience. In the small part of Poppaea, Empress of Rome, Miss Bertha Hunter had little to do, but she did that little well, while Miss F. Stanley as the boy Stephanus although a trifle too large, and certainly too old for such a youthful part got through, creditably. Miss Rose Blunt as Lucia acted fairly well, but the less said about the other ladies the better. As Ancaria Miss Florence Daniele attempted to sing a song in the third scene of the third act, and she should never try it again. There is quite enough misery, torture and death in the play without this lady imitating a poor little mouse in a cheese.

In the fine character of Marcus Superbus, Prefect of Rome Mr. Henry Dallas was very good, his interview with Nero being a fine piece of work. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave as "Tigellinus" was not happy in his reading of the part, in our opinion, being altogether wrong. Tigellinus is supposed to be a cool calculating villain of the Scarpia stamp, handsome and devilish, not old and badly dressed, and certainly not a coward. Mr. B. Eerell gave a fair摹try of the "Mr. B. Eerell" gave a fair摹try of the part, and our eyes is very different. Nero certainly was a wreck; he even had paralysis of the heart, it is even—possible that he had palsy—but he—certainly—not suffering from Delirium Tremens when he ordered Christians to be tied to posts, smacked with birch and flogged, and staked under the chin so that he could catch them dying when the torch was applied. Mr. J. L. Hall as Licinius, the villainous Adelie was passable, while as Gabrio Mr. D. Munro scored a decided hit, and was the success of the evening. Among the other numerous male characters no one stood out prominently, but nearly all knew their parts well and, for that blessing, the audience should be thankful. As Fabius Mr. Norman Roberts dropped his H's, a most unpardonable offence, even in an early Christian, but omitting this fault he did justice to a difficult part.

## INSURANCE COMPANIES UNDER THE NEW TREATIES.

## THE BELGIAN DEMAND ON CHINA.

A Brussels dispatch of the 27th ult. states that in the Chamber of Deputies the previous week the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. de Faverau, confirming the reports that Belgium had asked for a concession at Hankow, China, said that no international complications were feared in connection with the request, pointing out that the Belgium-Chinese Treaty of 1865 authorised Belgium to construct buildings in China and empowered China to name the most convenient territory for the Belgian Settlement.

## SETTLERS RUSHING TO THE PACIFIC COAST.

PORLAND (Or.) March 25th. Every train which arrives over the Oregon Railway and Navigation, Northern Pacific and Great Northern roads brings hundreds of people who have taken advantage of the low rates from St. Paul to the Pacific Coast. Many of the visitors are seeking farming lands in the Northwest and in California, while others have been attracted by the new mining discoveries in the Northwest.

Eighty-two Michigan men who arrived here yesterday left over the Southern Pacific this evening for Sission, Cal., where they will engage in lumbering. Another party of 100 from Michigan arrived to-day and seventy-five of them will go to California. A large party from Missouri and other Middle Western states left by the Northern Pacific to-day for the north; some of them going to Mount Vernon, Wash., where a co-operative colony has been located. Others of the same party were bound for New Whidbey, Wash.

PORLAND (Or.) March 25th. Day by day, there is now being perpetrated in the police-courts of this Colony an injustice so great, a hardship so acute, that it is sufficient to condemn this Colony in the sight of God and man. Consider once more, what this means to the colonie. He has worked for years in the tropics, hoping to save money to return to his family in China; and, since the industry or idle colonie fails to achieve these savings, the man being prosecuted for importing opium is the man who has been laborious, thrifty, and self-denying. This is the man whom we are robbing. Think again what it means to the man. The whole system of life they have laboriously built up for themselves, the happiness to their country that they have been contemplating for years, is shattered at one blow. They are robbed and thrown penniless on a strange town. Can one imagine the despair, the rage, the bitterness of sorrow that must possess the hearts of these men? Can one be surprised if our injustice should drive one or more of them to destroy himself? The thing, in a word, is one of the most scandalous that has ever been perpetrated in the name of justice. It is a black and bitter crime. It is a form of robbery so comprehensive, so destructive, and so bitter to the heart of the man who is robbed that it is almost impossible to find words to adequately describe it. The man who has it in his power to stop in one moment this scandalous hardship, this gross and wicked crime against justice, is the Governor of the Straits Settlements. He has it in his power to stop these prosecutions by writing a minute paper. If he fail to use that power, he shall answer at the throne of the God of Justice.

## A QUESTION OF HOTEL CHITS.

## AN INTERESTING POINT.

In H.B.M.'s Court on April 26th before Mr. Hall, Mrs. D'Arcy, ex-proprietress of the Occidental Hotel, Kobe, sued S. Reich for the sum of Y17, the amount due on certain hotel bills and chits incurred by Mr. Beauchamp, for which the defendant had previously held him responsible. Mr. Brushfield, appeared for the plaintiff.

Mrs. D'Arcy said she was the proprietress of the Occidental Hotel until the time it was closed, and knew the defendant. She knew a Mr. Beauchamp who had stayed at the hotel, and she had had a conversation with defendant about him. Defendant had then promised that he would pay Mr. Beauchamp's hotel bills, and since then the bills had been made out in defendant's name, and he had paid them up to three months ago, from which time she had only received Y100 on account. The bills were paid by cheque, and were for board and chits. At the beginning of March she sent in the bill produced for the February accounts. The bill was not paid, and was sent in again about March 8th. She went to Mr. Reich's office on February 15th and threatened she would go to the Consul, and defendant came to her in her office same time in March and paid her Y100 on account. She was not quite sure whether defendant had the bill with him at the time, but she made out another bill and gave it to him, acknowledging the Y100 received on account.

The defendant said he did not object to the bills, only to the chits, which were expensive. In answer to the defendant, his Honour said that he would be very sorry to lay it down that liquor chits supplied to guests at hotels should be disallowed. Those supplied purely in public-houses were frequently disallowed, but never hotel chits.

Evidence was also given by the ex-steward at the Occidental Hotel, and the case was adjourned sine die to suit the convenience of the parties. *Kobe Chronicle.*

## PATRIOTIC AMERICAN SOLDIERS.

On board the O. & O. steamer *Doric*, which arrived here yesterday says the *Nagasaki Press* of 28th April, from San Francisco, are two ex-soldiers of the United States Army, Charles Sterling who has been in the 5th U.S. Infantries in Cuba which he left on expiration of service March 12th, and Stewart Price, who was attached to the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, better known as Roosevelt's roughriders, are the men referred to.

Arriving in the United States they tried to join one of the regiments ordered to Gateshead; but, fortunately or unfortunately for them, these regiments had been recruited to their full strength. They had money and were not deterred. They were determined to fight for the "Stars and Stripes" in the Philippines, and, concluding that they would be cheerfully received by regiments at Manila which, on account of their shortness, are short-handed, started for San Francisco, where they secured passage on the *Doric*. Unlike many persons who make for the Philippines, these men did not seek free transportation on the Government transports or, failing that, stow themselves away on board.

They purchased first class tickets on the first steamer and are ready and willing to do first class work for their country when they arrive at Manila. On shore yesterday they made many enquiries about the war. They were particularly desirous of knowing if the war was over. They were assured that such was not the case, and it was pleasing information to them; for they want to be on time to take a hand. There are few who would travel about 10,000 miles and spend their own hard-earned money for transportation to fight for the flag they love—from Cuba to the United States, across that vast territory of plains, dales, and mountains, the expanse of the great Pacific Ocean, touching Honolulu, Japan, and China, thence to Manila, in the imagery of these American patriots. Their reception in Manila will doubtless be one long to be remembered and probably never forgotten.

## NOT AND A.

## CALENDAR.

## MAY.

*Meteorological means based on ten years' observations to 1893.*

Barometer	29.867
Thermometer	76.2
Humidity	84.0
Rainfall	15.9

## TO-DAY.

WEATHER REPORT.	On date at 12 morn. On date at 4 p.m.
Barometer	29.89
Thermometer	78
Humidity	80
Rainfall	15.9

## TO-MORROW.

Saturday, 6th May, 1899.	Chinese—27th of 3rd moon of 25th year of Kuang-hsi.
Sun.—Rises	6hr. 6min.
Sets	5hr. 55min.
High water—Morning	6hr. 33min.
Afternoon	6hr. 52min.
Low water—Morning	6hr. 40min.
Afternoon	6hr. 59min.

## ANNIVERSARIES.

1874—Attack on Mr. Wood at the British Legation, Tokio.
1882—Phoenix Park murders.
1892—Peking-Fusang collision in the Yangtze.
1897—Pharsalia captured by the Turks.

## TO-MORROW.

Sunday, 7th May, 1899.	Chinese—28th of 3rd moon of 25th year of Kuang-hsi.
Sun.—Rises	6hr. 6min.
Sets	5hr. 55min.
High water—Morning	6hr. 33min.
Afternoon	6hr. 52min.
Low water—Morning	6hr. 40min.
Afternoon	6hr. 59min.

## ANNIVERSARIES.

1842—Earthquake at St. Domingo: 10,000 lives lost.
1847—Earl of Rosebery born.
1868—Lord Brougham died.
1875—Japan gave the southern half of Saghalien to Russia in exchange for the Kurile Isles.
1891—Governor Sir Wm. des Vieux left for England.
1892—Arrival of the Hongkong Regiment.
1897—Macao declared a free port.

## CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral:—Communion, 7 a.m., Matins, 11 a.m., Evensong, 5.45 p.m.
Roman Catholic Cathedral:—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m.; Benediction, 5 p.m.
Union Church:—Services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
German Bethesda Chapel, West Point:—Morning Service, 11 a.m.
St. Francis' Church, Wan Chai:—Mass, 7 a.m., 6 a.m. (Port), 7.30 a.m., Benediction, 5 p.m.
St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road:—Morning Service (English), 9 a.m.
St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point:—Mass, 8 a.m.
Wesleyan Methodist Church:—Services, 10.30 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.
St. Peter's Seamen's Church:—11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

## DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Hongkong, 5th May, 1899.
DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP & CO., LIMITED.

## FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHEW.

HONGKONG, 5th May, 1899.
DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP & CO., LIMITED.

## THE Company's Steamship.

HONGKONG, 5th May, 1899.


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